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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENT).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC.

July 25, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CHARLES W. DENT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 31, 2006, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 25 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate extend beyond 9:50 a.m.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 2 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BASS) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "The Book of Proverbs tells us, Lord: 'The fruit of virtue is a tree of life, but violence takes lives away.'"

Lord, our God, let virtue triumph over violence.

If virtue were to find strength even in the war-torn parts of the world, violence would be rejected as the way to peace. Neither trees nor life survive on a battlefield.

So quickly, violent words can be tossed around a household, casting a cloud over a family, and expressions of violence can even find their way into the language of lawmakers and the courts of a land.

Drown all forms of violent behavior with virtue, Lord. The hand may reach for a weapon, a mind can plot vengeance, but violence springs from the heart. That is why the hearts of Americans, Lord, need so much virtue that there is no room for violence, on our streets, in our speech or our daily reactions to today, tomorrow, forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STUPAK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

LAW OFFICERS—VICTIMS OF ILLEGAL ENTRY

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, more news from the second front. The battle for the border is continuing. When our government does not monitor illegal entry into our homeland, all types of bandits come through.

One was Ramon Ramos. He and his accomplice, Francisco Salcedo, were stopped by Texas State Trooper Steven Stone for speeding in Tyler, Texas, 400 miles from the border. They were wearing body armor and armed with knives, handguns and assault rifles, and they were looking for trouble.

Ramos showed Trooper Stone a forged driver's license, and then, at point blank range, started shooting. Trooper Stone was shot six times and left for dead. Ramos and Salcedo then led other law enforcement officers on a high speed chase.

Ramos was recently convicted and sentenced to 14 life sentences. Why 14? Well, he tried to kill 13 other people, including peace officers in his blazing gun battle with the law.

Salcedo will get his day in court later this week.

Trooper Steven Stone miraculously survived.

Mr. Speaker, these crimes against peace officers could have been avoided had the Federal Government done its sworn duty to protect the borders from illegal entry.

And that's just the way it is.

VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, at this historic moment, the United States is

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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